



United States Department of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service



Illinois Department
of Agriculture

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2008

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SPRINGFIELD, IL -- The Illinois Field Office of NASS today released the USDA's **September Crop Production Report**. State and national highlights of the report include:

ILLINOIS

The 2008 Illinois **corn** crop is expected to yield 172 bushels per acre, unchanged from the August forecast, and 3 bushels lower than last year's yield. Production of corn for grain would be 2.03 billion bushels, down 11 percent from 2007. The east and southeastern districts were the driest in the State with 38 percent and 40 percent, respectively, in the very short topsoil moisture category. As of August 31, 48 percent of the crop was in the dent stage, compared to 89 percent last year and 78 percent for the five-year average. Corn condition was rated 16 percent excellent, 52 percent good, 24 percent fair, 5 percent poor, and 3 percent very poor.

Soybean production in 2008 is expected to reach 375.9 million bushels, 7 percent above last year's production. Yield is forecast at 42 bushels per acre, one bushel below last year. Temperatures across Illinois were below average throughout August, as was precipitation. Condition of the crop, as of August 31, was rated 3 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Soybeans turning yellow at this time were at 5 percent turning yellow, compared to 34 percent in 2007 and 25 percent for the five year average.

(M o r e)

UNITED STATES

Corn production is forecast at 12.1 billion bushels, down 2 percent from last month and 8 percent below 2007. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 152.3 bushels per acre, down 2.7 bushels from August but 1.2 bushels above last year. If realized, yield will be the second highest on record, behind 2004, while production will be the second largest, behind last year. Yield forecasts are lower than last month across the northern and eastern Corn Belt and the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys where the lack of rainfall during August reduced soil moisture supplies and stressed the crop. Yield prospects also decreased across much of the middle Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the Great Plains as dry weather during August eliminated soil moisture surpluses. Area harvested and to be harvested for grain is forecast at 79.3 million acres, unchanged from August but down 8 percent from 2007. If realized, this will be the second largest area harvested for grain since 1944, behind last year's 86.5 million acres.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.93 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the August forecast but up 13 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the fourth largest production on record. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 40.0 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushel from last month and down 1.2 bushels from 2007. Compared with last month, yields are forecast lower or unchanged in the Mid-Atlantic States, the central and eastern Corn Belt, Louisiana, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Yields increased or are unchanged from the August 1 forecast across the Southeast and the remainder of the Great Plains. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 73.3 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 17 percent from 2007.

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CORN, 2008 - September 1, 2008

District	Planted		Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres		Bushels		1,000 bushels	
Northwest	2,163	2,069	2,135	2,006	186	182	397,074.8	365,092
Northeast	1,242	1,184	1,229	1,151	185	179	227,409.1	206,029
West	1,236	1,186	1,219	1,151	184	183	224,333.7	210,633
Central	1,883	1,691	1,868	1,655	193	188	360,529.8	311,140
East	1,844	1,666	1,829	1,622	184	166	336,567.1	269,252
West Southwest	1,851	1,708	1,835	1,641	170	167	311,935.1	274,047
East Southeast	1,729	1,547	1,710	1,475	160	158	273,616.8	233,050
Southwest	590	553	573	528	123	148	70,450.7	78,144
Southeast	662	596	652	571	126	144	81,832.9	82,213
ILLINOIS	13,200	12,200	13,050	11,800	175	172	2,283,750.0	2,029,600

SOYBEANS, 2008 - September 1, 2008

District	Planted		Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres		Bushels		1,000 bushels	
Northwest	769	889	765	864	50	45	38,399.1	38,880
Northeast	619	675	616	668	48	44	29,569.5	29,392
West	760	791	754	769	45	47	34,158.1	36,143
Central	976	1,166	972	1,144	51	46	49,651.4	52,429
East	1,153	1,279	1,147	1,261	53	44	60,821.2	55,484
West Southwest	1,035	1,175	1,028	1,158	40	41	41,129.9	47,478
East Southeast	1,424	1,577	1,416	1,561	40	38	57,248.9	59,318
Southwest	794	832	788	821	27	40	21,485.7	32,840
Southeast	670	716	664	704	27	34	17,986.2	23,936
ILLINOIS	8,200	9,100	8,150	8,950	43	42	350,450.0	375,900

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